

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 23, lines 2 through 9, with the following paragraph:

An oligonucleotide trimer, 5'-GAA-3', was synthesised directly on PEG-grafted Rapp beads on 1 μ mol scale of synthesis using standard 3'-phosphoramidites. The beads were then subject to 4 more steps of oligonucleotide synthesis, this time according to split-and-mix strategy as outlined in Figure 2, using 7 and 16 different amines, thus producing a library of 256 different 7-mers. After ammonia deprotection the beads were washed and hybridised to 0.05 μ mol of 5'-Cy5-TTC.CAG.T (10) (SEQ ID NO: 1) and 5'-Cy5-TTC.TAT.T (11) (SEQ ID NO: 2) as described below.

Please replace the paragraph at page 26, lines 16 through 25, with the following paragraph:

A 225 base pair PCR product was amplified from M13mp18 ssDNA using two oligonucleotide primers; A1 5'ACTGGCCGTCGTTTTAC3'- (SEQ ID NO: 3); B1 5'AAGGGCGATCGGTGCGG 3'- (SEQ ID NO: 4). A1 was synthesised with the addition of a 17 atom linker molecule, and a thiol group, to the 5' end using conventional phosphoramidite chemistry (see figure). The thiol group was activated with a 200 fold excess of DTT, and 5ng of product was spotted on to the gold target plate. Incubation in 100% humidity overnight was sufficient to immobilise the PCR product. Excess template was removed by flooding the plate with 10mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5).

Please replace the paragraph at page 26, line 28 through page 27 line 4, with the following paragraph:

The oligonucleotide defining the locus, C1 - 5'GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT3' (SEQ ID NO: 5) was synthesised with a phosphate group coupled to the 5' end. Two putative allele defining oligonucleotides were synthesised, D1 and D2- 5'CACGACGTT3' (SEQ ID NO: 6) differing only in their 5' terminus where D1 was tagged with dimethoxytrityl and D2 with